Prince She were an excellent wife for Benedick.

Leonato O Lord, my lord, if they were but a weeke married, they would talke themselues madde.

Prince Countie Claudio, when meane you to goe to church?

Claud. To morow my lord, Time goes on crutches, til Loue haue all his rites.

Leonato Not til monday, my deare sonne, which is hence a iust seuennight, and a time too briefe too, to haue al things answer my mind.

Prince Come, you shake the head at so long a breathing, but I warrant thee Claudio, the time shall not go dully by vs, I wil in the interim, vndertake one of Hercules labors, which is, to bring Signior Benedick and the lady Beatrice into a mountaine of affection, th'one with th'other, I would faine haue it a match, and I doubt not but to fashion it, if you three will but minister such assistance as I shall giue you direction.

Leonato My lord, I am for you, though it cost me ten nights watchings.

Claud. And I my Lord.

Prince And you too gentle Hero?

Hero I wil do any modest office, my lord, to help my cosin to a good husband.

Prince And Benedicke is not the vnhopefullest husband that I know: thus farre can I praise him, he is of a noble strain, of approoued valour, and confirmde honesty, I will teach you how to humour your cosin, that she shall fal in loue with Benedicke, and I, with your two helpes, wil so practise on Benedicke, that in dispight of his quicke wit, and his queasie stomacke, he shall fall in loue with Beatrice: if we can do this, Cupid is no longer an Archer, his glory shall bee ours, for we are the onely loue-gods, goe in with mee, and I will tell you my drift. *exit.*

Enter John and Borachio.

John It is so, the Counte Claudio shall marry the daughter of Leonato.

Bora. Yea my lord, but I can crosse it.

John

John Any barre, any crosse, any impediment, w
cinable to me, I am sicke in displeasure to him, and
comes athwart his affection, ranges euenly with
canst thou crosse this marriage?

Bor. Not honestly my lord, but so couertly, tha
nesty shall appeare in me.

John Shew me briefely how.

Bor. I thinke I told your lordship a yeere since,
I am in the fauour of Margaret, the waiting gentl
Hero.

John I remember.

Bor. I can at any vnseasonable instant of the nig
her to looke out at her ladies chamber window.

John What life is in that to be the death of this

Bor. The poison of that lies in you to temper,
the prince your brother, spare not to tell him, t
wronged his honor in marrying the renowned Clau
estimation do you mightily hold vp, to a contami
such a one as Hero

John What proofe shall I make of that?

Bor. Proofe enough, to misuse the prince, to vex
to vndoe Hero, and kill Leonato, looke you fo
issue?

John Onely to dispight them I will endeuour an

Bor. Go then, find me a meet houre, to draw don
the Counte Claudio alone, tell them that you know
loues me, intend a kind of zeale both to the prince
(as in loue of your brothers honor who hath made t
and his friends reputation, who is thus like to bee c
the semblance of a maid, that you haue discouer'd th
scarcely beleeue this without triall: offer them insta
shall beare no lesse likelihood, than to see me at h
window, heare me call Margaret Hero, heare Marg
Claudio, & bring them to see this the very night be
tended wedding, for in the mean time, I wil so fashi
ter, that Hero shal be absent and there shal appeere
ing truth of Heroes disloyaltie, that iealousie shal b